

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/764,615

Examiner

Stephen J. Cherry

Applicant(s)

BHATEJA ET AL.

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2863

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 12-15-2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 5,17,27-30 and 64-66.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Crockett on 3-19-2007.

The application has been amended as follows:

Cancel withdrawn claims 6-14, 18-26, 31-35, 37-56, and 61-63.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 5, 17, 27-30 and 64-66 allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claim 5 recites, "providing information to the display device to prompt the user to locate the linear variable differential transformer to operate at a point within the linear region of operation; setting said offset to a substantially zero value while the linear variable differential transformer is operating at the point within the linear region of operation; providing information to the display device to prompt the user to locate the linear variable differential transformer to operate at a maximum desired position within the linear region of operation; and setting said gain to a known reference value while the linear variable differential transformer is operating at the maximum desired position

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within the linear region of operation". This feature, in combination with additional claimed features, overcomes the prior art of record.

Claim 17 recites, "displaying information to prompt the user to locate the linear variable differential transformer to operate at a point within the linear region of operation; setting adjusting said offset to a substantially zero value while the linear variable differential transformer is operating at the point within the linear region of operation; displaying information to prompt the user to locate the linear variable differential transformer to operate at a maximum desired position within the linear region of operation; setting said gain to a known reference value while the linear variable differential transformer is operating at the maximum desired position within the linear region of operation". This feature, in combination with additional claimed features, overcomes the prior art of record.

Claim 27 recites, "automatically displaying information on the display device to prompt the user to locate the position sensor to operate at a point within the linear region of operation; setting the offset to a substantially zero value while the position sensor is operating at the point within the linear region of operation, the setting performed automatically based on operations performed by the processing device; automatically displaying information on the display device to prompt the user to locate the position sensor to operate at a maximum desired position within the linear region of operation; and setting the gain to a known reference value while the position sensor is operating at the maximum desired position within the linear region of operation, the setting performed automatically based on operations performed by the processing

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device". This feature, in combination with additional claimed features, overcomes the prior art of record.

Claim 64 recites, "applying gain as necessary to bring the measured reference voltage within the voltage range of the dc voltage sensor, the applying performed automatically based on operations performed by the processing device; determining whether the measured reference voltage is within the voltage range of the dc voltage sensor, the determining performed automatically based on operations performed by the processing device; and if the measured reference voltage is not within the voltage range of the dc voltage sensor, automatically displaying information on the display device to notify the user of a calibration failure". This feature, in combination with additional claimed features, overcomes the prior art of record.

Claim 65 recites, "adjusting a gain setting until the differential voltage is substantially equivalent to a known reference voltage, the adjusting performed automatically based on operations performed by the processing device; determining whether the gain setting can be adjusted to make the differential voltage substantially equivalent to the reference voltage, the determining performed automatically based on operations performed by the processing device; and if the gain setting cannot be adjusted to make the differential voltage substantially equivalent to the reference voltage, automatically displaying information on the display device to notify the user of a calibration failure". This feature, in combination with additional claimed features, overcomes the prior art of record.

Claim 66 recites, "adjusting a gain setting until the differential voltage is substantially equivalent to a known reference voltage, the adjusting performed automatically based on operations performed by the processing device; determining whether the gain setting can be adjusted to make the differential voltage substantially equivalent to the reference voltage, the determining performed automatically based on operations performed by the processing device; and if the gain setting cannot be adjusted to make the differential voltage substantially equivalent to the reference voltage, automatically displaying information on the display device to notify the user of a calibration failure". This feature, in combination with additional claimed features, overcomes the prior art of record.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."


Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Stephen J. Cherry whose telephone number is (571) 272-2272. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:00-4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Barlow can be reached on (571) 272-2269. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

SJC



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